Governments/Union Territories and monitored by the administrative Ministries concerned. The Planning Commission reviews the implementation of Plan schemes during the Annual Plan discussion with the State Governments/Union Territories.

Estimate of People below poverty line

5003. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the latest NSSO data about the estimate of people living below the poverty line brings out a very bleak picture;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the way they compare with the figures of late phase of the pre-reform period; and

(c) how do they compare with the data publishing in "World Economic Outlook' by World Bank about India and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and state level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey (NSS) Organization at an interval of approximately five years. The latest estimate of poverty is available for the year 1993-94, based on the large survey on consumer expenditure conducted during the period July, 1993 to June, 1994 (NSS 50th Round). For the late phase of the pre-reform period, the poverty estimates are available for the year 1987-88. Comparing the estimate of poverty in these two periods i.e., 1993-94 and 1987-88, it is observed that the percentage of people living below the poverty line declined from 38.86% in 1987-88 to 35.97% in 1993-94, *i.e.*, by 2.89 percentage point.

(c) The World Bank Report No. 19471-IN entitled India Policies to Reduce Poverty and Accelerate Sustainable Development has published the estimates of poverty ratio as 38.47% in 1987-88 and 35.04% in 1993-94.